

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/031,871

Examiner

Tarifur R. Chowdhury

Applicant(s)

KAWAMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to appeal brief filed on 02/28/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Stephen R. Valancius on May 09, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been rewritten as follows:

-- 1. A liquid crystal display device comprising:

- a liquid crystal cell, and
- a polarizing member disposed on a back side (opposite to a visual side) of said liquid crystal cell,

wherein said polarizing member comprising:

a cholesteric liquid-crystal layer,

a quarter-wave plate,

an optical rotatory film, wherein said quarter-wave plate is interposed between said cholesteric liquid-crystal layer and said optical rotatory film, said optical rotatory film being laminated on said quarter-wave plate through an adhesive layer and said optical rotatory film being a solid film; and

an absorption type polarizer disposed on an upper side of said optical rotatory film, so that said optical rotatory film is interposed between said quarter-wave plate and said absorption type polarizer. –

In claim 3, line 1, “A polarizing member” has been changed to –A liquid crystal display device--.

In claim 4, line 1, “A polarizing member” has been changed to –A liquid crystal display device--.

In claim 5, line 1, “A polarizing member” has been changed to –A liquid crystal display device--.

In claim 6, line 1, “A polarizing member” has been changed to –A liquid crystal display device--.

Claims 7-10 have been canceled.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1 and 3-6 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. The prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal cell and a polarizing member disposed on a back side (opposite to a visual side) of the liquid crystal cell wherein the polarizing member comprises a cholesteric liquid crystal cell, a solid optical rotatory film, a quarter-wave plate between the cholesteric liquid crystal layer and the optical rotatory film and an absorption type polarizer on an upper side of the optical rotatory film so that the optical rotatory film is interposed between the quarter-wave film and the absorption type polarizer.
5. The closest reference USPAT 4,032,218 discloses a liquid crystal display device that includes a liquid crystal cell, a quarter-wave plate, a cholesteric liquid crystal layer and an absorption type polarizer. Further, EP 0457607 discloses the use of a solid optical rotatory film. However, all of the prior arts of record alone or in combination with any other prior arts fail to teach or suggest the claimed liquid crystal display device.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

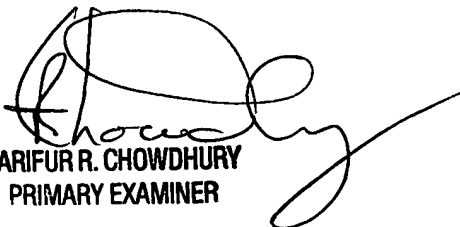
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R. Chowdhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-2287. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TRC  
May 09, 2006

  
TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY  
PRIMARY EXAMINER